



# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS QUEENSLAND OFFICE

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## THE LABOUR FORCE, QUEENSLAND, AUGUST 1975

This bulletin, which is the first issue in a new series, contains estimates of the civilian labour force in Queensland, derived from the results of the population survey which is carried out on a sample basis throughout Australia in February, May, August, and November each year.

For explanatory notes on concepts, definitions, etc., and technical notes on sample procedures, see pages 2 and 3.

- \* In August 1975, the labour force in Queensland was estimated to be 835,600, compared with 809,000 in August 1974, and comprised 560,800 males and 274,800 females, including 160,500 married women.
- \* Employed persons in August 1975 totalled 802,400, which was 9,500 more than the figure estimated in August 1974. While females employed accounted for an increase of 10,700, male employment was 1,200 fewer.
- \* The estimated number of persons unemployed in Queensland in August 1975 was 33,200, or 4.0 per cent of the labour force, while the corresponding figure in August 1974 was 16,100, or 2.0 per cent of the labour force.

### Contents

Table		Page
1	Civilian Population 15 Years of Age and Over by Employment Status	4
2	Civilian Labour Force by Age .. .. ..	5
3	Employed Persons by Industry .. .. ..	5
4	Employed Persons by Occupation .. .. ..	6
5	Average Hours Worked by Employed Persons .. .. ..	6
6	Employed Persons by Hours Worked .. .. ..	7
7	Persons Not in the Labour Force by Major Activity ..	8

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The Population Survey. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 4,800 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers slightly more than two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Queensland. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

Scope. The estimates relate to all persons aged 15 years and over, except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from Census and estimated populations.

Classification of the Labour Force. The labour force classification used in the surveys conforms closely to that recommended by the Eighth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 1954. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week, known as survey week, which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. The principal categories of the labour force appearing in tables in this bulletin are defined as follows.

The Labour Force comprises all persons aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week, were employed or unemployed.

- (a) Employed Persons comprises all those who, during the survey week,
  - (i) did any work for pay, profit, commission, or payment in kind, in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers, and self-employed persons), or
  - (ii) worked 15 hours or more without pay in a family business (or farm), or
  - (iii) had a job, business, or farm, but were not at work because of illness, accident, leave, holiday, production hold-up due to bad weather, plant break-down, etc., or because they were on strike.
- (b) Unemployed Persons comprises all those who, during the survey week, did no work at all, and who either
  - (i) did not have a job or business and were actively looking for full-time or part-time work (including those who stated that they would have looked for work if they had not been temporarily ill, or believed no work was available, or had not already made definite arrangements to start work in a new job after the survey week), or
  - (ii) were laid-off from their jobs without pay for the whole week.

A person who either lost his job or was laid-off during the survey week, but did some work at his job during the survey week, is classified as employed.

Persons Not in the Labour Force are those who, during the survey week, were not in the categories employed or unemployed as defined. This category therefore includes persons without a job, business, or farm who were not actively looking for work and who, during the survey week, were either keeping house (unpaid), attending an educational institution (e.g. school or university), retired or voluntarily idle, permanently unable to work, or inmates of institutions. A person who worked less than 15 hours without pay in a family business during the survey week is also classified as not in the labour force.

Industry Classification. Industry is classified according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC).

#### Technical Notes

Estimation Procedure. The estimates are derived from the quarterly population survey by use of a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

Reliability of the Estimates. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete Census using the same questionnaires and procedures. One measure of the likely differences is given by the standard error, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample, and not the whole population was enumerated. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration and about 19 chances in 20 that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this bulletin. Standard errors for general application are given in Table A below. These figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics. They will provide an indication, however, of the magnitude of the standard error of any particular estimate for any particular survey. An example of the use of Table A is as follows: if the estimate for Queensland obtained from the sample is 20,000 the standard error

is 1,200, i.e. there are about two chances in three that the true figure is within the range 18,800 to 21,200 and about 19 chances in 20 that this figure is between 17,600 and 22,400.

The quarter to quarter change in the level of an estimate is also subject to sampling variability. The standard error of the change depends on the standard error of the level of the estimate, rather than on the change itself. Final estimates of the standard errors of movement have not yet been calculated, but an indication of the magnitude of standard errors of quarter to quarter change for Australia is shown in Table B (see also para. 4) to the Technical Note in bulletin reference No. 6.20 of the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra.

The standard errors of estimates relating to agricultural employment are generally somewhat higher than the standard errors of other estimates of the same magnitude. Estimates for females also tend to have higher standard errors than estimates of equivalent size for males in similar employment categories.

The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. The per cent standard error of the estimated percentage, however, will generally be lower than the per cent standard error of the estimate of the numerator. The per cent standard errors of the numerators can be obtained from Table A.

As the standard errors in Table A show, the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this bulletin, estimates below the level shown in Table A (3,000) have not been included. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the non-sampling error, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient operating procedures.

Table A

Size of estimate	Standard errors	Per cent of estimate	
		persons	%
1,000	..		
1,500	..		
2,000	..		
2,500	..		
3,000	..	600	20.0
4,000	..	700	17.5
5,000	..	750	15.0
10,000	..	900	9.0
20,000	..	1,200	6.0
50,000	..	1,500	3.0
100,000	..	2,000	2.0
200,000	..	2,000	1.0
500,000	..	3,500	0.7

Estimates below the level indicated have not been published (see text above).

Special Notes

Discrepancies between the sum of the constituent items and total, as shown in some tables, are due to rounding.

n Indicates estimates subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses (see above).

Table 1 - Civilian Population 15 Years of Age and Over by Employment Status<sup>a</sup>

Month	Employed			Unemployed		Total labour force		Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over		
	Agri-culture	Other industries	Total	Number	Proportion of labour force <sup>b</sup>	Number	Proportion of population <sup>c</sup>				
Males											
1974: February	57.6	482.4	540.0	8.2	1.5	548.2	80.4	133.7	682.0		
May	60.5	487.4	547.9	5.8	1.1	553.8	80.8	131.6	685.3		
August	61.9	482.3	544.2	9.1	1.6	553.3	79.5	142.6	696.0		
November	60.3	485.3	545.5	16.0	2.9	561.6	80.1	139.5	701.1		
1975: February	59.8	483.4	543.3	24.0	4.2	567.3	80.3	139.5	706.8		
May	60.9	485.1	546.0	20.8	3.7	566.8	80.1	140.9	707.6		
August	63.9	479.1	543.0	17.8	3.2	560.8	79.4	145.6	706.4		
Married Women											
1974: February	7.8	135.4	143.2	4.2	2.8	147.4	31.6	319.0	466.4		
May	6.8	145.6	152.4	3.0	2.0	155.4	33.0	315.4	470.9		
August	6.8	143.2	150.0	n	n	152.8	32.2	321.3	474.1		
November	8.7	144.7	153.4	5.2	3.3	158.7	33.5	314.4	473.0		
1975: February	8.9	145.6	154.5	7.5	4.6	162.0	34.5	308.0	470.0		
May	8.0	147.8	155.9	4.8	3.0	160.7	34.0	311.9	472.6		
August	10.2	145.9	156.2	4.3	2.7	160.5	34.2	308.2	468.7		
Other Females <sup>d</sup>											
1974: February	n	99.3	101.6	4.5	4.3	106.1	47.4	117.7	223.8		
May	n	95.2	96.7	3.6	3.6	100.3	45.0	122.4	222.7		
August	n	96.8	98.7	4.2	4.1	102.9	45.0	125.9	228.8		
November	n	97.4	99.6	7.6	7.1	107.2	45.5	128.3	235.5		
1975: February	n	105.8	107.3	10.1	8.6	117.4	48.2	126.2	243.6		
May	n	100.8	102.3	7.3	6.6	109.6	45.2	132.8	242.4		
August	3.3	99.9	103.2	11.1	9.7	114.3	46.6	131.2	245.5		
All Females											
1974: February	10.1	234.7	244.8	8.7	3.4	253.6	36.7	436.7	690.2		
May	8.4	240.8	249.1	6.6	2.6	255.8	36.9	437.8	693.6		
August	8.7	240.0	248.7	7.0	2.7	255.7	36.4	447.2	702.9		
November	11.0	242.1	253.1	12.8	4.8	265.8	37.5	442.7	708.5		
1975: February	10.4	251.4	261.8	17.6	6.3	279.4	39.2	434.2	713.6		
May	9.5	248.6	258.1	12.1	4.5	270.2	37.8	444.7	715.0		
August	13.6	245.8	259.4	15.4	5.6	274.8	38.5	439.4	714.2		
Persons											
1974: February	67.7	717.1	784.8	17.0	2.1	801.8	58.4	570.4	1,372.2		
May	68.9	728.2	797.0	12.5	1.5	809.5	58.7	569.4	1,378.9		
August	70.7	722.2	792.9	16.1	2.0	809.0	57.8	589.8	1,398.8		
November	71.3	727.3	798.6	28.8	3.5	827.4	58.7	582.2	1,409.6		
1975: February	70.3	734.8	805.1	41.6	4.9	846.7	59.6	573.7	1,420.4		
May	70.5	733.7	804.1	32.9	3.9	837.0	58.8	585.6	1,422.6		
August	77.5	724.9	802.4	33.2	4.0	835.6	58.8	585.0	1,420.6		

a See Explanatory Notes, page 2.

b The number of unemployed in each group as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

c The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group (labour force participation rate).

d Never married, widowed, and divorced.

Table 2 - Civilian Labour Force<sup>a</sup> by Age, August 1975

Age group (years)	Number				Proportion of population <sup>b</sup>			
	Males	Married women	All females	Persons	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	%
15-19 ..	58.6	n	55.2	113.8	62.6	44.2	61.7	62.1
20-24 ..	74.3	23.5	49.7	123.9	92.4	46.2	51.3	76.8
25-34 ..	138.8	44.7	57.9	196.7	96.0	36.4	41.4	69.2
35-44 ..	106.5	43.3	49.0	155.5	97.1	44.8	46.6	72.4
45-54 ..	103.3	33.1	41.4	144.7	94.2	37.2	39.5	67.5
55-59 ..	39.6	9.7	12.9	52.6	88.1	25.9	27.5	57.2
60-64 ..	27.6	n	5.5	33.0	66.6	n	12.6	39.0
65 and over ..	12.2	n	3.2	15.4	14.8	n	3.1	8.3
Total ..	560.8	160.5	274.8	835.6	79.4	34.2	38.5	58.8

a Civilians aged 15 years and over. See Explanatory Notes, page 2.

b The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group (labour force participation rate).

Table 3 - Employed Persons<sup>a</sup> by Industry<sup>b</sup>, August 1975

Industry division		Males	Married women	Other females <sup>c</sup>	All females	Persons
		'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Agriculture ..	..	63.9	10.2	3.3	13.6	77.5
Manufacturing ..	..	106.7	16.7	7.5	24.2	130.9
Construction ..	..	76.3	n	n	n	79.2
Wholesale and retail trade ..	..	100.0	45.0	25.9	71.0	171.0
Transport and storage ..	..	40.5	3.4	n	6.3	46.8
Finance, insurance, real estate, and business services <sup>d</sup> ..	..	27.7	10.9	12.6	23.5	51.2
Community services ..	..	44.5	37.3	29.6	67.0	111.5
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels, and personal services ..	..	19.1	21.9	10.3	32.1	51.3
Other industries ..	..	64.1	8.4	10.6	19.0	83.1
Total ..	..	543.0	156.2	103.2	259.4	802.4

a Civilians aged 15 years and over. b See Explanatory Notes, page 2. c Never married, widowed, and divorced.

d Comprises health; education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services.

Table 4 - Employed Persons<sup>a</sup> by Occupation, August 1975

Occupation group	Males	Married women	Other females <sup>b</sup>	All females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Professional and technical ..	46.8	20.7	18.4	39.1	85.9
Administrative, executive, and managerial ..	41.0	3.7	n	4.7	45.7
Clerical .. .. ..	40.2	44.8	39.3	84.1	124.3
Sales .. .. ..	35.1	24.1	12.6	36.8	71.9
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc. ..	71.8	9.5	3.0	12.5	84.3
Transport and communication ..	47.1	5.2	n	7.8	54.9
Tradesmen, production-process workers, and labourers, n.e.c. ..	234.1	12.5	7.3	19.8	253.9
Service, sport, and recreation ..	27.0	35.6	19.0	54.6	81.6
Total .. .. ..	543.0	156.2	103.2	259.4	802.4

a Civilians aged 15 years and over. See Explanatory Notes, page 2.

b Never married, widowed, and divorced.

c Including miners, quarrymen, and related workers.

Table 5 - Average Hours Worked<sup>a</sup> by Employed Persons<sup>b</sup>, August 1975

Industry division and occupational status	Males	Married women	Other females <sup>c</sup>	All females	Persons
Agriculture .. .. ..	52.9	32.4	37.4	33.7	49.6
Manufacturing .. .. ..	36.2	28.6	36.5	31.0	35.3
Construction .. .. ..	38.1	n	n	n	37.5
Wholesale and retail trade .. ..	40.0	30.9	32.8	31.6	36.5
Transport and storage .. ..	40.1	19.5	n	26.7	38.3
Finance, insurance, real estate, and business services <sup>d</sup> .. ..	39.8	27.5	35.2	31.6	36.0
Community services .. ..	30.8	22.3	28.2	24.9	27.3
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels, and personal services .. ..	40.6	26.9	30.6	28.1	32.8
Other industries .. .. ..	33.8	28.9	35.7	32.7	33.6
Wage and salary earners .. .. ..	36.4	25.7	32.2	28.6	33.7
Other <sup>e</sup> .. .. ..	50.6	34.0	36.4	34.3	46.5
Total employed .. .. ..	39.1	27.3	32.4	29.3	35.9

a Persons with jobs who did not work during survey week have been included in the calculation of average hours worked. When recording hours worked, fractions of an hour are disregarded. This procedure results in a slight lowering of the average hours figures. b Civilians aged 15 years and over. See Explanatory Notes, page 2. c Never married, widowed, and divorced. d Comprises health; education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services. In May and August each year estimates are low as average hours worked by school teachers are affected by school holidays. e Employers, self-employed, and unpaid family helpers.

Table 6 - Employed Persons<sup>a</sup> by Hours Worked<sup>b</sup>, August 1975

Hours worked	Number employed				
	Males	Married women	Other females <sup>c</sup>	All females	Persons
0 <sup>d</sup>	..	50.9	23.3	10.7	34.0
1-15	..	11.1	21.7	7.1	28.8
16-29	..	21.8	25.4	5.0	30.4
30-34	..	40.9	15.7	9.6	25.3
35-39	..	43.2	15.1	15.5	30.6
40	..	205.7	37.9	46.4	84.3
41-44	..	23.6	3.6	n	6.4
45-48	..	34.3	n	n	4.5
49 and over	..	111.6	10.6	4.4	15.0
Total	..	543.0	156.2	103.2	259.4
					802.4

a Civilians aged 15 years and over. See Explanatory Notes, page 2. b Actual hours worked during survey week, not hours paid for. The figures may be affected by: public holidays, leave, and absenteeism; temporary absence from work due to sickness, accidents, and industrial disputes; and work stoppages due to bad weather, plant breakdown, etc.

c Never married, widowed, and divorced. d Excluding persons laid off without pay for the whole of survey week; these persons are classified as unemployed.

#### Unemployment Rates

(The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group)

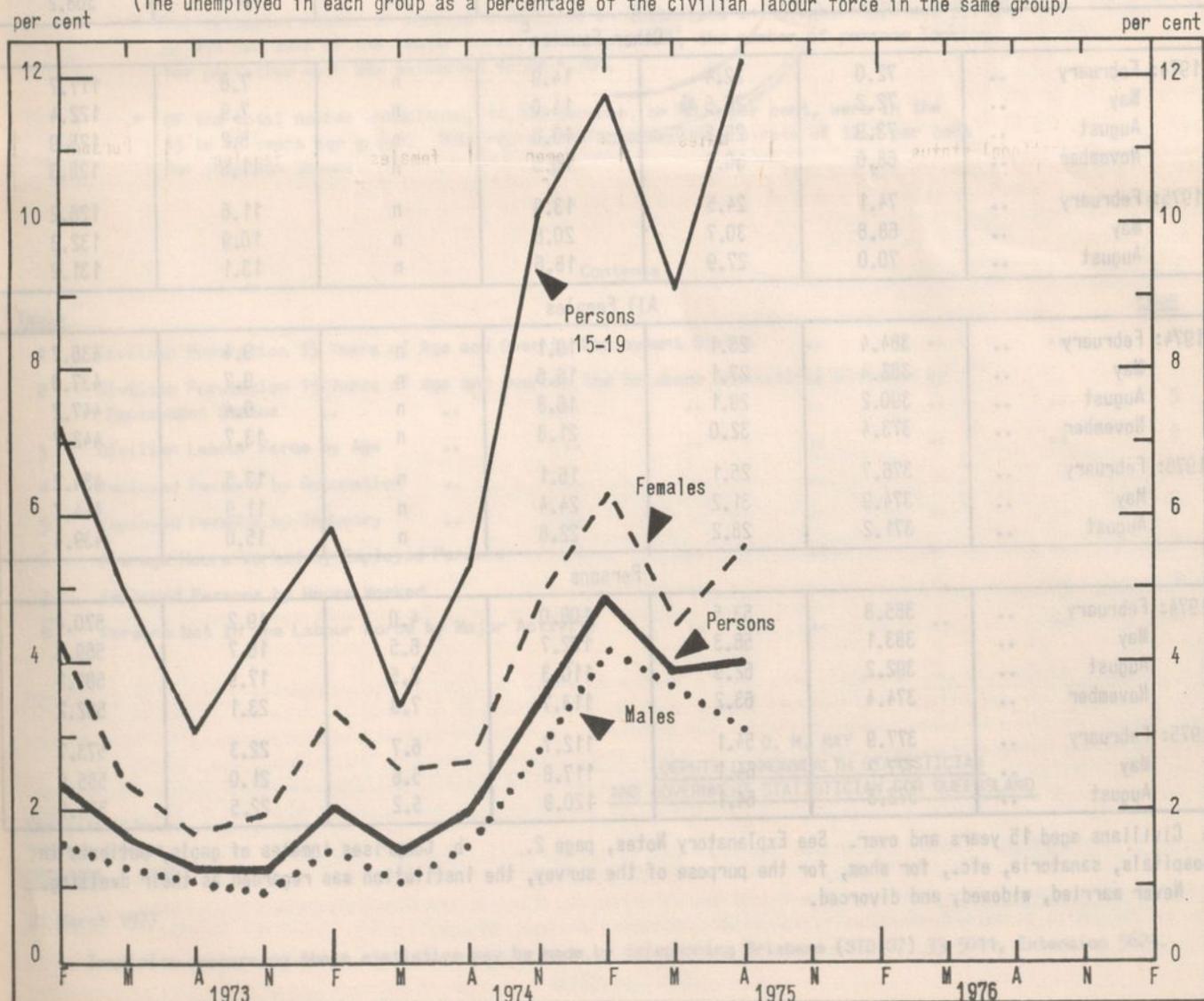


Table 7 - Persons Not in the Labour Force by Major Activity<sup>a</sup>

Month	Kept house	Went to school etc.	Retired or voluntarily idle	Permanently unable to work	Institu- tionalised <sup>b</sup>	Total
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Males						
1974: February	..	n	30.4	88.8	3.4	9.8
May	..	n	31.3	86.1	4.4	9.0
August	..	n	33.8	93.6	4.8	8.5
November	..	n	31.2	91.8	6.1	9.4
1975: February	..	n	29.0	96.6	3.9	8.8
May	..	n	32.9	93.4	3.3	9.1
August	..	n	35.9	98.1	n	7.5
Married Women						
1974: February	..	312.4	n	4.2	n	n
May	..	310.1	n	n	n	315.4
August	..	316.4	n	3.1	n	321.3
November	..	305.4	n	5.4	n	314.4
1975: February	..	302.6	n	n	n	308.0
May	..	306.1	n	3.6	n	311.9
August	..	301.1	n	4.2	n	308.2
Other Females <sup>c</sup>						
1974: February	..	72.0	22.4	14.9	n	7.8
May	..	72.2	26.5	14.0	n	7.9
August	..	73.9	28.5	13.6	n	8.2
November	..	68.0	30.9	16.5	n	11.8
1975: February	..	74.1	24.5	13.9	n	11.6
May	..	68.8	30.7	20.8	n	10.9
August	..	70.0	27.9	18.6	n	13.1
All Females						
1974: February	..	384.4	23.1	19.1	n	9.4
May	..	382.4	27.1	16.6	n	9.7
August	..	390.2	29.1	16.8	n	9.4
November	..	373.4	32.0	21.8	n	13.7
1975: February	..	376.7	25.1	16.1	n	13.5
May	..	374.9	31.2	24.4	n	11.9
August	..	371.2	28.2	22.8	n	15.0
Persons						
1974: February	..	385.8	53.5	108.0	4.0	19.2
May	..	383.1	58.3	102.7	6.5	18.7
August	..	392.2	62.9	110.3	6.5	17.9
November	..	374.4	63.2	113.7	7.9	23.1
1975: February	..	377.9	54.1	112.7	6.7	22.3
May	..	377.2	64.1	117.8	5.6	21.0
August	..	372.3	64.1	120.9	5.2	22.5

a Civilians aged 15 years and over. See Explanatory Notes, page 2. b Comprises inmates of gaols, patients in hospitals, sanatoria, etc., for whom, for the purpose of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling.

c Never married, widowed, and divorced.